

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

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THE SPEAKER AND THE HOUSE.

While the Senate was at work, during the special session, and Speaker Reed told the House what it might and what it should not do, the organs of the Money Power sustained him in his tyrannical course, but, now that the session is ended, some of them admit that the permanent exercise of such despotic power by any officers is incompatible with the perpetuity of republican institutions.

The difficulty with some men is that they do not see how the House can emancipate itself? The precedent has been set and, to them, precedent is law. It is much easier to remain passive while handcuffs are being fastened than to break them afterwards.

Fortunately, all that is needed, in this case, is courage. Every new House is an entirely independent body, and has full power to ignore all precedent, and to make its own rules and regulations. Therefore, all that is necessary is to ascertain the cause of the evil and to remove it.

The despotism of the Speaker has been allowed to increase steadily because the members have been afraid of him, and the chief reason for that is the fact that he appoints the committees—and it is the committees that really shape legislation.

It is, therefore, very plain that the first and principal thing to do is to refuse to again confer on the Speaker the power to appoint the Standing Committees—a power which he has so frequently and flagrantly abused. The Speaker will still be a formidable personage, but his power will be reduced two thirds or three fourths.

The Senate does not allow its presiding officer to appoint its Standing Committees—does not even consult him. The majority party selects a committee, which chooses a majority of the members of each Standing Committee, and notifies the opposite party of the number of places it will be permitted to fill.

Largely because of this method of doing business, and the retention of the right to fully discuss all measures, there has never been anything approximating bossism in the Senate—and the truth is that, with all its admitted faults, the Senate has been the bulwark of our liberties, since the first inauguration of Grover Cleveland.

The emancipation of the House should be made one of the issues in next year's congressional campaign. There is no constitutional obstacle in the way of the immediate adoption of this greatly needed reform—and, if it be once adopted, the old method will never again be tolerated.

Nor should this reform be restricted to Congress. It should be adopted by state legislatures, also. Indeed, no law making body should surrender so much of its power to one man as is given the presiding officer that is authorized to appoint its committees.

Not unfrequently, unfit men owe their election as presiding officers to promises made to other unfit men to give them coveted chairmanships. The power of corporations is also, at times, greatly increased by their ability to control votes in such contests, and also by their supposed influence with the appointing power.—Topeka Independent.

Republican Money Did It.

In Ohio the middle-of-the-road populists met last week and nominated Jake Coxe of "keep off the grass" fame, for governor, together with a full state ticket. A large element of the convention which favored a combination of all the silver forces on the democratic ticket already in the field, opposed the middle of the road policy, but were outnumbered in the convention. It was charged in open convention that the republicans were putting up money to run the middle of the road ticket, and the charges were not refuted. The anti-fusionists also refused to hear proofs of the charges in open convention, but referred the matter to a committee and then adjourned before the committee had time to report what they found out.

The Rev. J. H. Taylor and Hugo Freyor of Cleveland, both fusionists, were the principal witnesses before the investigating committee. Taylor stated that he had heard the republicans were spending some money to assist the anti-fusion populists, and he determined to find out the truth of it. He said he went to Major Charles Dick and told him the populists were dissatisfied with the Democratic campaign, and suggested that the fusion might be broken up. He referred to Freyor as a prominent populist, whose services would be worth securing, and

arranged for a conference later, between Major Dick, Freyor and himself. At that conference, he claimed, Major Dick agreed to pay the expenses of headquarters, literature, etc., for the anti-fusion Populists at the State convention. Major Dick asked them if they needed any money for expenses, and Freyor said he did not. Taylor accepted \$25 and a railroad ticket. Freyor stated to the committee that he had Taylor write to Dick for money to pay his expenses, and had received a check for \$25 signed by Charles Dick, and drawn on the Ohio National bank of Washington, D. C., which was submitted in evidence.

Jerry Simpson on the Dingley Tariff.

"It is the greatest outrage upon the people ever conceived by the paid talent of organized greed. Every trust and corporation has been paid by it for the work done for McKinley in last year's campaign."

"What do you think of Speaker Reed and his committee?" he was asked.

"The Czar? I don't want to speak about him. I have not physical strength enough to tell you what I think of that man."

"How about prosperity in Kansas?"

"The tidal wave of hard times is running east. Kansas is more intelligent than the east, and her people have conformed to living on bed rock prices for their products. The failure of crops in India and Argentine helps Kansas, and not the McKinley's so-called prosperity."

"What is your idea about fusion?"

"The forces in opposition to republicanism, which means the away of trusts and combinations, must stand together, shoulder to shoulder. Bryan will be the man and silver the issue in 1900. We must remember that and be ready to fight the most glorious and triumphant battle ever fought by the people of America. Now is the time to organize for that battle. The enemy is at work and so ought we."

Wanted to be a Subscriber.

Human nature in Georgia seems to be about the same as in these parts, judging from the article in the Atlanta Constitution, on the "New Subscriber." And the newspaper man earns all he gets, as the following will show: "Say, kernel," he said as he walked into the editor's office and stamped about four pounds of mud off his boots against the leg of the stove, "I sorter thought I'd take your paper if you'd do the square thing."

"Why, of course; we are always glad to accommodate our subscribers."

"Well, here is a little obituary of Aunt Kaline; hit's jes' ten pages of foolscap, an' won't make much, I reckon."

"We'll print it."

"You'll send forty copies of the paper to this 'ere list o' relatives, won't you?"

"Yes."

"An' next week my daughter Serliny is agoin' to git married. I reckon you'll print a bull do' about that?"

"Of course, that's news."

"An' say, I've got the finest young shotes you ever saw. I want you to come out some day and write up hit."

"I shall be glad to do so."

"You haidt got a dozen or two old magazines what you's done read a layin' around handy, have you?"

"Yes; here's three or four."

"Thanks; jes put me down for three months, an' I'll hand you the quarter long this fall some time."

IF ALL the stories we hear about Secretary John Sherman are true the gold-bugs must feel a little cheap to think they have been getting their inspiration from a man who was losing his mind. But we do not believe they are all true; but rather that John Sherman realizes that he is getting to be an old man, and regretting his course in the past has determined to henceforth talk plainly and use no subterfuges to fool the people, even if plain talk may not go down with arrogant foreigners and the tin-horn American citizens who want to continue in servitude to them for financial reasons only. Sherman told the truth about the English and about the Spanish. But this administration seems to think the truth should have been suppressed "for diplomatic reasons."

"BUSY BETTYS" COLUMN.

The Knoxville, Ia., Journal defines poetry in motion as, a handsome young lady on her bike.

The Chanute Blade questions after this fashion: "Oh, consistency in gold bug editorials, where art thou?"

Lillian Russell says that every time she married it has been for protection. Mr. Dingley ought to have made a place for Lillian in his bill.—Kansas City Star.

Warren Knaus says: "We are now living and hoping for prosperity under the Dingley Bill; at least it is supposed to be the Dingley Bill, as nobody else will claim it as his offspring."

I see in your last issue that you have noticed the deplorable condition of the Great Bend cemetery. Why do not the people form a cemetery association and arrange to have the City of the Dead kept in good order?

Ellsworth is located a long way from heaven. The editor of the Messenger says so, and he ought to know: "A woman registered at one of our hotels last Saturday as 'Sarah Elizabeth Bentenholl, residence, no home but heaven.' She failed to find any acquaintances in Ellsworth, as she was a long distance from home."

To show our eastern friends what a hard time our farmers had to get hands to harvest the immense wheat crop we clip the following, which was said to be nailed on the front gate: "Harvest hands wanted. Hired girl, blonde and genial. Cabinet organ music in the evening. Pie three times a day. Three spoons of sugar with every cup of coffee. Hammocks, feather beds or leather divans at your option for sleeping. Rising hour 9 o'clock in the morning. Three hours rest at noon. Come one, come all."

Did it serve him right: "He stood on the porch in the evening as the sun went down; and the June bug bright, in the starry night, flew merrily through the town. Oh, sweet were the gentle zephyrs that blew from the balmy south; and red were the lips and sweet were the lips that he took from her pretty mouth. Her tiny waist was encircled by his arms so strong and true. Said he, 'Whose duck are you, love?' 'Yours,' she murmured, 'and whose are you?' Oh, the hallowed hours that evening! Oh, the cruel caprice of fate! Her father, unkid, stole up from behind and kicked him clear over the gate."—Ellsworth Messenger.

It does not appear whether the writer of this pants article is a wearer of pants or simply a panter after the wearer of pants, as the authorship has been lost in its panting rounds: "Pants are made for men and not for women. Women are made for men and not for pants. When a man pants for a woman, and a woman pants for a man, they are a pair of pants; such pants don't last. Men are often mistaken in pants. Such mistakes are breeches of promise. There has been much discussion as to whether pants are singular or plural. Seems to me when men wear pants it is plural and when they don't it's singular. Men go on a tear in their pants and it is all right. When pants go on a tear it's all wrong."

How would this sort of marriage ceremony suit the "up to date" girl? It is supposed to have originated in Western Kansas, the birth-place of the novel and new: "Wilt thou take her for thy pard, for better or for worse; to have, to hold, to fondly guard till hauled off in a hearse? Wilt thou let her have her way, consult her many wishes; make the fire up every day, and help her with the dishes? Wilt thou give her all the 'stuff' her little purse will pack; buy a boa and a muff; a little sealskin saque? Wilt thou comfort and support her father and her mother, Aunt Jemima, Uncle John, three sisters and a brother?" And his face grew pale and blank; it was too late to jilt; as through the chapel floor he sank, he sadly said, "I wilt," and he wilted.

I fear that Mr. Padgett, of the Salina Herald, voiced the sentiment of the newspaper fraternity generally in this article: "Holding down the editorial tripod of a great democratic weekly at 23 cents a day, looks mighty high like nothing, compared with these yarns of \$15 a day in the gold fields of Alaska, and besides that, a great fortune at the end of a couple of years labor; but then,

one must take into account the glory of a Kansas democratic editor, and so we conclude to hang on, if our subscribers will only pay up the back wages due us." But the good people who read this paper should see to it that the editors are rewarded, in this year of good crops. As they have waited patiently "till after harvest" for many a year. Pay the editor as a thank offering.

UNDER the heading of "Announcements" will be found the card of Mr. D. C. Luse, of Great Bend, who will ask the nomination for sheriff in the democratic county convention to be held at Holsington September 4th, which means also that he will ask the nomination of the populists should be selected by the democrats as their standard bearer. Mr. Luse is, we believe, widely known throughout the county. He is one of the old residents and has been identified with almost all matters of public improvement that called for an exhibition of good citizenship. He has the confidence and esteem of all who know him, and has been elected time and again as a member of the school board of Great Bend, being now the president of the board. We believe he has good qualifications for the office to which he aspires, and we know that he is a 16 to 1 free silver man. He was captain of the free silver marching club during last fall's campaign and did much good work in the cause. If he is so fortunate as to become the democratic nominee for sheriff, the DEMOCRAT can support him with the greatest of pleasure.

Our editorial of last week regarding the nomination of Judge Clark by petition, as the independent candidate of the people, has met a responsive chord from both democrats and republicans in the east end of the county. This matter should be taken up at once and vigorously pushed, that the people may retain the services of the best judge the district ever had. Let the petition be circulated and it will receive the signature of hundreds of men of all political beliefs.—Ellinwood Leader.

INASMUCH as Judge Clark is a strong republican, is serving a term to which he was elected as a republican, and is liable to be the republican nominee this fall to succeed himself it would seem that the Leader editor would seem that the Leader editor has forgotten that he effects to publish a paper of independent politics. If the Leader can assure its readers that Judge Clark will not be the republican nominee it can then claim consistency in its course. But the signs are all "ferriest it." We have not a word of criticism for Judge Clark's course on the bench, but if he is the republican nominee he cannot expect any democrat to vote for him. Will the Leader please give us some light on the matter of Judge Clark's politics?

LAST week the Tribune of this city issued two supplements. One was headed: "Prosperity's Wide Sweep," and was furnished by the sound money league free of charge to the Tribune, and contained six columns of clippings from the gold bug papers. The other was headed: "Delinquent Tax list of Barton County," and contained twenty columns of solid nonpareil (the smallest type used here) telling of thousands of farms and town lots on which our people have been unable to pay taxes. Which supplement will our people pay the most attention to? Which proves the real facts in the situation?

MORE cotton mills closed down last week in New England on account of the "congested market." We have been told that tariff tonic relieves congestion. That tariff remedy is the biggest patent medicine humbug on the market and its proprietors are the rankest of quacks. The cotton manufacturers have piled up more goods than the people could buy. The market is congested because the working man has congestion of the pocket-book. Relieve the pressure on his purse and you will have markets; but no amount of high tariff will sell goods when the people are too poor to buy them.—Lawrence Gazette.

THE Kansas City Star says "Coxey is Hanna's man, of course." It is not often the Star will so freely admit the truth.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Wheat marketing has just fairly begun.

Rockvale, Canon lump coal, \$5.75 per ton, at Allison Bros.

Mrs. Lucy Ullery is visiting friends in Oklahoma, near Kiowa.

Mrs. T. H. Butler has been conducting an art class in Holsington.

Another rain Saturday night, with cool weather and heavy dews since.

Miss Lula Moore returned Sunday night from her visit to Russellville, Ind.

Boyd Evers is so far recovered as to be able to haul in his wheat this week.

Avery Avis, the peddler, has been appointed postmaster at Otis, Rush county.

Jake Zimmer and family started last Thursday on an overland trip to Oklahoma City.

Marshall W. F. Klein, of Ellinwood, made a visit to the Oklahoma country last week.

The Twice-a-week Kansas City Times to Jan. 1, 1898, and the DEMOCRAT one year, for \$1.25.

FOUND—A Masonic charm and part of watch chain; on Broadway. Owner call at this office.

Watermelons are plentiful, and reasonable in price. We do not now need that belt so often.

Mrs. Retta Hargrave, of LaCrosse, is in the city on a visit to her brothers, John and Roger Moffet.

One dollar and a quarter (\$1.25) will get the DEMOCRAT and the Cincinnati Weekly Enquirer one year.

The Register announces that G. W. Nimocks is a candidate for judge of this district. Why, of course.

Miss Rosa Krouch, of Larned, who has been visiting with C. Samuels, returned home Saturday evening.

And the Mo. P. road also had to put in a new side track at Holsington to accommodate the grain business.

George Butler, father of Mrs. W. A. Chapman, came down from Rush Center last Thursday to visit a week.

THE DEMOCRAT and Kansas Farmer both one year for \$1.75. The DEMOCRAT is one price to all subscribers.

Mrs. Jacob Peffley, of the south side, left on Monday of this week on a visit to relatives at Indianapolis, Indiana.

Hans Peterson, a prominent Rush county farmer, was down to Great Bend doing some trading last Thursday.

Miss Mae R. Wood, of the State Superintendent's office, came up last week from Topeka on a visit to friends here.

Jacob Geil was in town Saturday along with many other farmers who are feeling good over Friday's big rain.

Remember the South Side Sunday School picnic at the Hoge grove on August 21st. A good time is guaranteed.

Governor Leedy has named September 6th as Labor Day, in accordance with the State law providing for such holiday.

Mrs. H. A. Boshell, of Buffalo township, left last Thursday on an overland trip to Lone Tree, Oklahoma, to visit a daughter.

Anton F. Schenk, of near Olinitz, was doing business in Great Bend Saturday. He reports a good rain there Friday afternoon.

Jake Shively, who has the contract for building the new Taylor school house, south of the river, commenced work on it last Thursday.

Dan Bird, of west Clarence, was in town last Thursday, to report that big new boy doing finely and learning to holler for Bryan and 16 to 1.

Elmer Epperson also joined the dog and pony show, as a member of its band. Elmer is big enough and old enough to—to blow the innards out of any tuba made.

"O, Mister Ewalt, turn me loose, I ain't got no money, but a good excuse," sang the young man who was halted at a late hour the other night while returning from a late seance with his girl.

Frank Patterson and wife and Chas. Zutavern and wife drove down to Ellinwood last Friday. While there Mr. Zutavern did some business in the interests of the DEMOCRAT, and also got some data and photographs to use in an article on the sugar beet industry of Barton county, for eastern papers. The boys report oodles of wheat rolling into Ellinwood.

Brookside, Canon egg coal, \$4.90 per ton, at Allison Bros.

Last Saturday evening there were seventy-four cars of wheat on the side-tracks at Great Bend, and but one engine to pull them out.

We have bought a large quantity of lubricating oils and can make you special prices.

GREAT BEND IMPLEMENT CO.

The Chieftain rejoices over the boom that has struck LaCrosse. A boot black—the first in the history of the town we presume—has set up in business.

Lumber dealers inform us that the price of lumber has been raised \$1 on the 1000 feet, because of the tariff bill. This will benefit Kansas farmers a whole lot, won't it?

Register of Deeds Klein left last Friday evening for a visit of a week or 10 days in Oklahoma. George Crum-mack has charge of the registers office during Henry's absence.

Fred Fanston, who has been Santa Fe freight agent here for the past few months, left for his home at Enterprise last week. He thought there was too much work for the pay.

Fred Hagaman, of Rush county, formerly of Buffalo township, was doing some trading in town last Thursday. He has many old friends in Barton county who will be glad to know that he is doing well.

The salaries of the various county officers to be filled by election this fall will not be as great as have the salaries in the same offices been heretofore. At the same time any of them pay sufficiently well to be worth seeking for.

Candidates for the various county offices will make no mistake by putting a card announcing their candidacy in the DEMOCRAT. It is fair and honorable for any good man to announce his candidacy. The people want to know who you are.

What was doubtless the heaviest rainfall of the season fell last Friday evening between six and eight o'clock. From all we can learn it was pretty general throughout the county, and will do much to help out the fall crop of Kafir corn and other roughness.

Every voter should feel it his duty to attend the township caucuses and assist in selecting the delegates to county conventions. This applies to the people of all parties. Let the people show enough interest in the preliminaries of politics, and the wishes of the people will come nearer being carried out at the polls.

LeRoy Lenn, accompanied by his mother, from Ohio, stopped off a couple of days last week to visit with the family of J. V. Brinkman, their old neighbors. Mr. Lenn was at one time a resident of Stafford county, having lived in that county four years. His home is not far from Canton, where the lawn-grass suffered extermination last fall at the feet of the plodding thousands. Mr. Lenn says he did not assist. Although he was a republican, he was a 16 to 1 Wm. J. Bryan republican.

Wednesday last My. Gilmore of this city had the misfortune to lose eight stacks of wheat by fire, on a farm east of Holsington a few miles. A man was plowing for fall seeding, and set fire to some stubble to burn it out of the way. In some manner the fire got beyond his control, with the above unfortunate result. And that was not all. The fire burned two stacks of wheat belonging to Mrs. Cofer, and all of Tom Clayton's pasture. It would seem that extra precaution should be taken by people starting fires. Everything is as dry as tinder, the stubble is unusually heavy, and there is generally plenty of wind to spread any sort of a fire.

DIED—Saturday, August 14th, 1897, Mrs. J. N. Ward, aged 81 years, 9 months and 14 days. Thus has the life companion of one of the old settlers of the county passed to the great beyond. She lived to a ripe old age of usefulness; contributed her goodly share to the welfare of humanity; and leaves a large family of children, grand-children and great-grand-children to mourn her departure for that better land. She died at her home in Great Bend, with many of the family about her. For many years she has been a resident of South Bend township, but a year or more ago moved into town. Funeral services were conducted at the M. E. church, Sunday the 15th, at 3 p. m., and the remains followed to the city of the dead by a large host of sorrowing friends and relatives.

FOR SALE—A typewriter, in good repairs. Call at this office.